

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SCS-01 L-02 H-01 SCA-01 NSC-07

RSC-01 /032 R

DRAFTED BY AF/ERBRESLER:SM X23355

APPROVED BY AF/E:WBCOOTE

SCS:JALIVORNESE (DRAFT)

L/AF:BKHUFFMAN (DRAFT)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 071825

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC, MA

SUBJECT: W/W REPPAS

REF: (A) TANANARIVE 0395; (B) TANANARIVE 0459

1. CONCUR IN YOUR DEMARCHE AND COMMENTS (REF B).
 2. HAVE INFORMED JEFFRIES OF YOUR APPROACH. JEFFRIES, HOWEVER, VOLUNTEERED THAT HE IS PROCEEDING WITH FOLLOWING PRIVATE SCHEME.
 3. BERNARD BURGEAT, REPPAS FAMILY "CONSULTANT" ON THE CASE, HAS TOLD JEFFRIES THAT GOMD HAS NOT FOUND MEANS TO FINANCE AIR FARE FOR AMBOARAMPEO CHOIR TO ATTEND LINCOLN CENTER CHORAL FESTIVAL. ACCORDING TO BURGEAT THE PRESIDENT OF THE CHORUS, MR. CHARLES ANERIANTSITOMAINA, WHO ALSO IS THE BROTHER OF THE PRESIDENT OF AIR MADAGASCAR AND HE NEPHEW OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE APPELLATE COURT, WILL ARRANGE TO HAVE REPPAS EXPELLED IF THE FAMILY PAYS DOLS. 25,000 FOR THE CHORUS' AIR FARE. APPARENTLY AIR
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MADAGASCAR WILL ISSUE THE TICKETS ON JEFFRIES' WORD THAT

HE WILL ARRANGE PAYMENT ONCE REPPAS HAS LEFT MADAGASCAR. JEFFRIES IS CONTACTING LINCOLN CENTER TO ASK IF THEY WILL SERVE AS CONDUIT FOR PAYMENT. ACCORDING TO BURGEAT LEBEL SAYS THAT ANERIANSTITOMAINA IS IN A POSITION TO SECURE REPPAS' RELEASE AND THAT HE, LEBEL, APPROVES THE PLAN. DEPARTMENT QUESTIONED WHETHER SUCH AN ARRANGEMENT WOULD BE POSSIBLE AND NOTED POTENTIAL BACKLASH ON OUR EFFORTS TO GET JEFFRIES RELEASED IF IT FAILED. JEFFRIES NEVERTHELESS PLANS TO GO AHEAD WITH THE SCHEME.

4. ACCORDING TO BURGEAT, REPPAS' APPEAL MUST BE DROPPED BEFORE HE CAN BE EXPELLED. JEFFRIES THEREFORE HAS ASKED LEBEL THROUGH BURGEAT TO CANCEL THE APPEAL SO THAT IT WILL NOT STAND IN WAY OF ABOVE PLAN IN SPITE OF OUR EXPLANATION OF RATIONALE FOR APPEAL (REF A) AND OUR WARNING THAT IT MAY NOT BE POSSIBLE TO REINSTATE IT.
RUSH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EXPULSION, MUSIC, PRISONERS, CULTURAL PRESENTATIONS, AIR FARES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE071825
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: SM X23355
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740081-0442
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740454/aaaabxet.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: (A) TANANARIVE 0395; (B) TANANARIVE, 0459
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03 SEP 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <10 FEB 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: W/W REPPAS
TAGS: CASC, SCUL, MA, (REPPAS, GEORGE)
To: TANANARIVE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005